



Start of Renee Breecher Collection

AR 11707

Sys #: 000356763

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AR 11707

VI

Renee Breckner Collection, 2002

Renee Breecher Collection (AHC 2650)

(all items listed below are copies if not otherwise indicated)

1. AHC QII

2. 'Schuelerausweiskarte' (school ID) Ms. Tanenbaum (now Breecher), issued on
3/24/1938

THE AUSTRIAN HERITAGE COLLECTION AT THE LEO BAECK INSTITUTE
AUSTRIAN-JEWISH IMMIGRANTS IN THE USA

LEO BAECK INSTITUTE: 15 WEST 16TH STREET, 4TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10011, TEL (212) 744 - 6400

We kindly ask you to answer the following questions in as much detail as possible, either in English or in German. If you need more space, please feel free to use additional sheets. If you don't know the answer to certain questions or don't want to answer for any reason, just go on to the next question.

NAME: RENATE TANENBAUM DATE: 10-3-27

1. BEFORE MARCH 1938

1.1 Please describe your parental home.

(Did you live in an apartment or in a house? How many people lived there with you? Did you have servants? What language(s) were spoken in the household?)

APARTMENT 5 PEOPLE NO LIVE IN GERMAN

1.2 Please tell us about your neighborhood (District in Vienna or area).

(What ethnic groups lived there? Religious life? Relationships between Jews and non-Jews? Relationships with neighbors?)

II BEZIRK MIXED ATTENDET TEMPLE SOMETIME
GOOD UNTIL HITLER TAKEOVER
I HAD TWO BEST FRIENDS WHO WERE CATHOLIC

1.3 What religious tradition existed in your family?

(Did you keep kosher, go to synagogue, observe holidays, etc.?)

NO SOMETIME YES

1.4 Please, tell us about your friends and acquaintances ?

(Were they mostly Jewish or non-Jewish? Did you have any close non-Jewish friends?)

MIXED YES

1.5 Were you affiliated with any political, social or religious organization?

(Youth Organizations, Zionist Organizations, Political Parties, other organizations)

If so, did you have any specific function?

NOT IN AUSTRIA
ZIONIST YOUTHGROUP IN SWITZERLAND

- 1.6 Did you or your family encounter any anti-Semitism in Austria before March 1938?

(If so, please give details.)

NO

- 1.7 What was your/ your family's reaction to Hitler's rise to power in Germany in 1933 and to Nazi activity in Austria in the early thirties? Did you/ they feel threatened by these events?

AT THE TIME MY FATHER THOUGHT THAT IT ~~WOULD~~'NT
CONCERN AUSTRIA

2. FROM MARCH 1938 TO EMIGRATION - FROM EUROPE TO AMERICA

2.1 How was your time spent during and after the "Anschluss"?

What was the impact of the "Anschluss" on you personally?

(Were you expelled from school/university? Did you or somebody in your family lose your/ their jobs? Were your apartments/houses looted? Were you (or members of your family) persecuted? Were you/ they forced to scrub the streets?)

I WAS EXPELLED IN MY FIRST YEAR IN THE LYCEUM
MY FATHER LOST HIS JOB
APARTMENT WAS LOOTED, EVERYTHING OF VALUE
WAS TAKEN, JEWELRY, SILVER AND MONEY ON HAND

2.2 How did non-Jewish friends, colleagues, schoolmates, neighbors, etc. behave toward you and your family?

I HAD A BIRTHDAY PARTY THE DAY OF THE "ANSCHLUSS".
MY TWO CATHOLIC FRIENDS WERE PICKED UP BY
THEIR PARENTS AND NEVER AGAIN ALLOWED TO
VISIT. I WAS ALSO MADE TO ATTEND JUDENSCHULE
AFTER THAT, SO THERE WAS NO OCCASION

- 2.3 Could you please describe your recollections of November 9th, 1938, the so-called „Reichs-Kristallnacht“ (In case you still were in Austria at that time)

WE LEFT AUSTRIA IN DECEMBER 1938, MAINLY
BECAUSE MY FATHER WAS ARRESTED AN
KRISTALLNACHT AND WAS LET FREE BECAUSE
HE WAS POLISH

- 2.4 Were you or any members of your family arrested? Sent to a camp?
(If so, please give details.)

WE THEN CROSSED THE BORDER INTO
SWITZERLAND

- 2.5 Can you recall the process of obtaining papers necessary for emigration?
(Did you try to obtain visas for other countries as well? Were you supported by any relief organization, by relatives or friends?)

WE DIDN'T TRY FOR VISA UNTIL WE RELOCATED
IN SWITZERLAND

- 2.6 What happened to your (or your family's) apartments, houses, businesses and other property?

WE LEFT EVERYTHING

- 2.7 When did you leave Austria? (Please indicate exact date, if possible)

DECEMBER 1938

FIRST PART OF THE MONTH

I KNOW THAT WE WERE IN DEGERSHEIM BY CHRISTMAS

- 2.8 If you did not emigrate directly to the U.S, where did you go first?
(How long did you stay there? Can you give a brief description of your experiences?
Was there an immediate reason - apart from the general threat - for your emigration?)

SWITZERLAND 10 YEARS

ATTENDED REFUGEE SCHOOL UNTIL THE WAR WAS
ENTERED BY AMERICA. THEN FINISHED MY
EDUCATION IN SWISS SCHOOLS.

3. THE UNITED STATES

3.1 When did you arrive in the U.S.? (Please indicate exact date, if possible)

MAY 1948

3.2 Did members of your family emigrate to countries other than the U.S.?
(If so, where? Where do they live today? Are you still in contact with them?)

ENGLAND

SOME CAME TO THE UNITED STATES, MOST HAVE
PASSED ON SINCE

I HAVE ONE COUSIN IN LOS ANGELES

WE KEEP IN TOUCH

HER BROTHER LIVES IN VIENNA

3.3 Did you serve in the U.S. Armed Forces or in any other allied army?
(If so, when did you join? What division? What was your area of operation?
When were you discharged?)

NO

- 3.4 Please list places and dates of residence in the U.S.
(City, State; in bigger cities, neighborhood)

NEW YORK 1948 2 1/2 MONTHS
MILWAUKEE AREA SINCE THEN
WAWATOSA
NEW BERLIN
WAUKESHA TO PRESENT

- 3.5 Please describe your occupational situation after your arrival in the U.S.

I WAS ABLE TO GET WORK RIGHT AWAY
USING MY EDUCATION AS MILLINER

- 3.6 Did you belong to any emigrant/immigrant-related organization or cultural association? (e.g. Austrian American Federation, Austrian Forum, etc.? If so, since when?)

NO

- 3.7 Do you still speak German in the USA? If so, with whom and when? How often?

YES WITH RELATIVES
VERY SELDOM

- 3.8 Would you call yourself religious? To what degree? What is your affiliation? Did it change?
(Do you keep kosher, go to synagogue, observe the holidays,...?)

NO

- 3.9 Were your friends and acquaintances mostly German-speaking or non-German-speaking? Mainly Jewish or not?

MOSTLY REFUGEES AT FIRST

- 3.10 Of what country (countries) are you a citizen? When was each citizenship granted?

U.S.A.
1953

- 3.11 Have you ever visited Austria after the war? If so, how often?**
(What did you do there? Can you recall some of your impressions during these visits?
Have you ever thought of going back permanently?)

YES 1994

VISIT MY HOUSE AND THE PLACES I REMERED AS
A CHILD (PRATER, KÄRNTNERSTRASSE, GRINZING
SCHLOSS SCHOENBRUNN) I WAS SURPRISED AT HOW
LITTLE IT HAD CHANGED. WE VISITED WITH A COUSIN
WHO MOVED BACK THERE AFTER THE WAR. NO I AM
AN AMERICAN AND MY FAMILY IS HERE.

4. PARTICIPATION IN OTHER ORAL HISTORY PROJECTS

- 4.1 Have you ever been interviewed by any other organization?**
(If yes, please indicate when and by which organization?)

NO

- 4.2 Have you ever been mentioned in any historical works?**
(Holocaust-related literature, Documentary films, Exhibitions etc.)

NO

5. FAMILY MEMBERS

- 5.1 **Spouse** (Name, Maiden Name, Place/date of birth [if deceased, place/date of death], Occupation[s])

PRESENT SPOUSE

ROBERT BREECHER 4-30-1925

RETIRED AIRPLANE MECHANIC, LIVING

- 5.2 **Mother** (Name, Maiden Name, Place/date of birth [if deceased, place/date of death], Occupation[s])

IDA TANENBAUM — BAUMGARTEN JULY 19th 1998

DECEASED, MILWAUKEE OCTOBER 1981

- 5.3 **Father** (Name, Place/date of birth [if deceased, place/date of death], Occupation[s])

JOSEPH TANENBAUM JULY 5th 1998

DECEMBER 1970

DECEASED, MILWAUKEE

- 5.4 **Siblings** (Name, Maiden Name, Place/date of birth [if deceased, place/date of death], Occupation[s])

NONE

5.5 Children (Name, Maiden Name, Address [City, State, Country], Place/date of birth [if deceased, place/date of death], Occupation[s])

RUTH DE FRIES - WENK MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST
BETTY GIBSON - WENK TEACHER

5.6 Grandparents (Name, Maiden Name, Place/date of birth, place/date of death, Occupation[s])

SALES MAN ISAAK BAUMGARTEN BORN 1872 DIED 1969
SINGER POLAND U.S.A CALIFORNIA
SEWING MACHINE ESTHER BAUMGARTEN BORN 1873 DIED 1959
MAIDEN NAME SCHNEIDER

The Austrian Heritage Collection is always looking for people to interview.

If you know any Austrian-Jewish immigrants in the US who might be interested in participating in this project, please either ask them to contact us or write their addresses below.

Thank you very much for participating in this project.

Die Direktion de.



in . . .
bestätigt, daß der
die im nebenstehenden Licht-
bilde dargestellte

Renate Tanenbaum,

(Vor- und Nachname)

geboren am 10 März 1927

in Wien

wohnhaft in

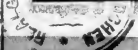
Wien, II. Runggasse 7/15,

Schüler

Schülerin der oben genannten Anstalt ist.

Wien, am 24. III. 1932

Dr. Ratung
Direktor



VA 9. Gedruckt in Wien. - Wien. Druck. Schenkerstr. 10. 1932

Die Gültigkeit dieser Ausweisurkunde bezieht sich auf den
Schuljahr.



1932
Für den Direktor:

Klassenvorstand. Stempel der Direktion.

1932
Für den Direktor:

Klassenvorstand. Stempel der Direktion.

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Klassenvorstand. Stempel der Direktion.

1932
Für den Direktor:

Klassenvorstand. Stempel der Direktion.

Die Anstaltsurkunde ist gemäß der Vorschrift des
§ 19, Abs. 1, und gemäß § 19, Abs. 2, der
Anstaltsurkunde, ausgestellt.
Der Einhalt ist die Urkunde des von der Direktion
ausgegebenen. Im Falle der Urkunde des von der
Anstaltsurkunde, ausgestellt. Im Falle der Urkunde
ausgegebenen. Im Falle der Urkunde, ausgestellt.



Name der Anstalt

Schülerausweisurkunde

Raum
für Eintragungen durch die Anstaltsleitung
(öffentliche Urkunden, Ausweisungen des Landes usw.)



End of Renee Breecher Collection
